Novel Sues Garrison, Backers For Millions

NEW ORLEANS (UPI)—Attorneys for Gordon Novel Wednesday filed a damage suit against Dist. Atty. Jim Garrison and his financial backers that could run as high as $60 million.

The suit alleged that Garrison falsely charged Novel with being a material witness in the New Orleans investigation of the 1963 Kennedy assasination.

THE SUIT, filed in Federal Court, asked for $10 million in damages from Garrison and $1 million from each member of an organization called Truth and Consequences, the group of businessmen that have been putting up money to finance the investigation. Some reports said there were as many as 50 members of the group.

Novel's suit said the investigation damaged his reputation and was designed to show that he and others were somehow involved in a conspiracy.

U.S. DIST. JUDGE James A. Comiskey scheduled a hearing on the suit for next Wednesday.

Novel left New Orleans and was arrested in the Columbus, O., suburb of Gahanna April 1. Louisiana authorities have been trying to extradite him on a burglary charge. The first papers they sent to Ohio were returned for technical deficiencies. A second set of papers reportedly is on its way to Ohio.

Novel allegedly was shot and wounded Sunday in Nashville, Tenn.

5-25-67 Citizen Journal Columbus